# Saskatchewan History

## CENTENNIAL TIMELINE

1905-2005

1960 1965 1970 1975 1980 1985 1990 1995 2000 2005

# Saskatchewan History

## Centennial Timeline, 1905-2005

**by Ruth Bitner and Leslee Newman**
Saskatchewan Western Development Museum

assisted by
Brenda Mundell and Christa Nicholat

Introduction by J. William Brennan

Published by
Saskatchewan Archives Board
Saskatoon and Regina, 2005

ISBN 0-9691445-0-4

© Saskatchewan Archives Board

Cover Photo

WELCOME.
LAYING OF THE CORNER-STONE REGINA, OCT. 4 1909.
ROUTE TO GROUNDS SHOWING TRIUMPHAL ARCH
AND CAPITOL IN THE DISTANCE.

SAB R-A2273

*Crowds gather for the laying of the cornerstone, Legislative Building, Regina, 1909*

# Acknowledgements

The Saskatchewan Archives Board wishes to acknowledge with thanks financial and/or in-kind support for preparation of this booklet from:

* *Saskatchewan History* Advisory Board
* Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation
* Saskatchewan Western Development Museum
* Saskatoon Public Schools
* SaskEnergy Inc.

Without their assistance and smaller private donations of time and money, publication of the Centennial Timeline would not have been possible.

We also wish to recognize the following Saskatchewan Archives Board employees for their special efforts towards this publication:

* Wanda Jack
* Shauna Kerr
* Tim Novak
* Christie Wood
* Ilene Youchezin

Be sure to watch for an electronic version of this timeline on the Saskatoon Public Schools Online Learning Centre's web site *Celebrating Saskatchewan's Heritage*, beginning later this year. This site was developed in partnership with the Western Development Museum.

**http://olc.spsd/sk.ca/DE/saskatchewan100/timeline.html** (with links from **www.saskarchives.com** and **www.wdm.ca**).

# Saskatchewan Before Provincehood

105-04542/

**J. William Brennan**

Our province celebrates its centennial in 2005, but its human history stretches back thousands of years to migratory hunting and gathering peoples. Contact with Europeans first occurred through the fur trade. Aboriginal people traded beaver pelts and other furs with the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC), which established its first posts on Hudson's Bay in the 1670s, and with French traders who ventured as far west as modern-day Saskatchewan. In the 1770s a new rival challenged the HBC, the Montreal-based North West Company. Each built a network of inland posts extending to the Rockies and beyond. The HBC eventually absorbed its rival in 1821 and dominated the fur trade, and the western interior, for another half century.

Marriage between European traders and First Nations women eventually led to a distinct Métis culture. The Métis were an integral part of the fur trade. They were guides, interpreters, suppliers of provisions and a labour force for the fur trade companies.

A new era began in 1870, when Canada purchased Rupert's Land from the HBC. To prepare the way for settlement, the federal government signed treaties with First Nations and offered scrip to the Métis, organized the North-West Mounted Police, sent out surveyors to survey the land and offered free land for homesteading. It also provided subsidies to the Canadian Pacific Railway to build the essential transportation link that would enable farmers to ship their wheat to outside markets.

The 1870s and 1880s were difficult times for First Nations. The disappearance of the buffalo resulted in starvation and disease. The signing of treaties required them to settle on reserves and put an end to their traditional lifestyle. The *Indian Act* of 1876 and various government policies strictly regulated their lives. For the Métis too, this was a frustrating and difficult period. Canada's plans for massive settlement of the prairies alarmed the Métis who saw surveyors imposing the survey grid on their river-lot farms. Government ignored their concerns. Pushed to the limit, the Métis, under the leadership of Louis Riel and Gabriel Dumont, declared a

*Sketch, signing Treaty 6 at Fort Carlton, 1876*

provisional government and prepared to defend their position. The 1885 Resistance was promptly suppressed, and Riel, convicted of high treason, was executed in Regina. Eight Indian men were also hanged at Battleford.

The population of the North-West Territories grew slowly during this period, from 56,446 in 1881 to 98,967 a decade later. Most of those who came to take up land or work in the few towns were from other parts of Canada–Ontario and the Maritimes primarily, or from Great Britain.

By the 1890s the trickle of newcomers became a flood, as tens of thousands, then hundreds of thousands, were attracted to the "Last Best West." Interprovincial migration accounted for part of this influx, but larger numbers came from Great Britain, the United States and Europe, especially the Austro-Hungarian and Russian empires. These newcomers–Canadians and British, Germans and Scandinavians, Russians and Poles, Ukrainians and Hungarians, Mennonites and Doukhobors–helped to swell the population of the North-West Territories to 211,649 by 1901. Wheat production also began to rise. In 1901, territorial farmers harvested a 12,736,642-bushel crop.

The success of the federal government's efforts to attract settlers to the North-West Territories soon led to a campaign for provincial status. An expanding population looked to the territorial government in Regina to construct roads and bridges, to assist in establishing schools and building railway lines, and to provide other necessary services. However, the government of Premier F.W.G. Haultain found it increasingly difficult to meet these demands. It could not borrow money, or secure revenue from public lands which were under federal control. An annual grant from the federal government was not enough.

Provincial status seemed the obvious solution, and from the turn of the century Haultain vigorously pressed the case with Prime Minister Wilfrid Laurier. Finally, in 1905, the federal government created two provinces. This pleased most territorial residents, but not Haultain, who wanted a single province. Alberta and Saskatchewan were not given control of their public lands and natural resources, though each was to receive an annual federal subsidy as a substitute. Parliament approved the Autonomy Bills in July, 1905, and Alberta and Saskatchewan officially came into existence on September 1.

SAB R-B3926

*Big Bear's camp, near Maple Creek, 1883*

# Centennial Timeline

## Preface

How can we capture 100 years of Saskatchewan history in 32 pages? It is an impossible task. In putting together this timeline, we have attempted to emphasize events which have had major impact on the people who live here. Other writers, no doubt, would choose many of the same events, but inevitably, some choices would be different.

A timeline, which by nature is date-specific, poses certain limitations. How do we include events which happen over time, those which do not have specific start and end dates? And some events are difficult to pin down to exact years. When we have encountered discrepancies, we have made what we consider to be reasonable choices.

How, in a few pages, can we present it all? For instance, how do we include all the people who have contributed to the culture and sport of the province? Regrettably, you will not find mention of your favourite writers, artists or musicians, and few sports celebrities are included. And how do we decide which Saskatchewan innovators or inventors to include? How can we be inclusive of the faith communities or the immigrant groups which have contributed much to our province? We grappled with these challenges. Forgive us if we have not included what is important to you.

We have much to be proud of in Saskatchewan. As we celebrate our centennial, we hope that this timeline will help you to understand how the years have shaped the Saskatchewan we know and love today.

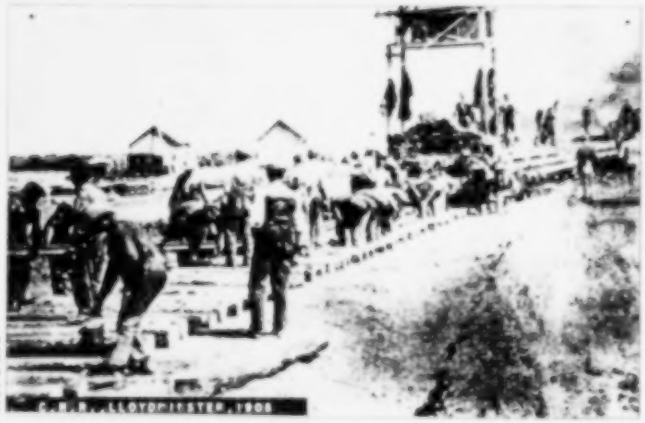
Ruth Bitner
Leslee Newman

# 1905

- Saskatchewan and Alberta become provinces on September 1, 1905. In Edmonton, Prime Minister Wilfrid Laurier attends the festivities on September 1 before making his way to Saskatchewan. People flock to Regina from every direction on Inauguration Day, September 4, 1905, to celebrate Saskatchewan's entry into Confederation. Territorial Premier F.W.G. Haultain is passed over in favour of Walter Scott, who is named Saskatchewan's first premier. Amédée Forget is the first Lieutenant-Governor.

- The year marks the mid-point of the great wave of immigration to the West which began in 1896 and will last until the outbreak of the First World War in 1914.

- The Saskatchewan Local Improvement Districts Association, forerunner of the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, is formed.



SAB S-A103

*Railway construction, Lloydminster, 1905*

# 1906

- Although it had been the territorial capital since 1883, it is not until May 23, 1906 that Regina is officially declared the provincial capital. The first provincial legislature meets in the former territorial government building on Dewdney Avenue.

- Treaty 10 is signed with First Nations in northwest Saskatchewan. When the Hatchet Lake band signs the following year, the entire province is brought under Treaty.

- The winter of 1906-07 is one of the worst ever. Extreme cold and blizzards take their toll as nearly 70 per cent of range cattle in southwest Saskatchewan die.

- The Territorial Grain Growers' Association, formed in Sintaluta in 1901, is renamed the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association. This farmers' organization, like others which follow, seeks to influence government policies in agriculture and the grain trade.

- The Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities, which later becomes the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association, is formed.

SAB R-A24725 (2

*Inauguration Day parade, Regina, September 4, 1905*

SAB R-B1144

*Arriving at the homestead, location and date unknown*

*Doukhobor women and children thatching roof near Kamsack, 1905*

*Main street, Radisson, 1905*

*Ukrainians plowing with oxen, St. Julien district, c. 1910*

# 1907

- The University of Saskatchewan is established by an act of the Saskatchewan Legislature. Regina, Saskatoon, Moose Jaw, Prince Albert and Indian Head are all contenders for the site. The following year, Walter Murray is chosen the first president of the University. In an innovative move, Murray will insist that the College of Agriculture have equal status with other colleges.

# 1908

- A provincially-owned telephone system, which will become Saskatchewan Government Telephones, is formed. A year later, it buys the Saskatchewan assets of Bell Telephone and the Saskatchewan Telephone Company.

- Saltcoats Rural Telephone Company is the first company formed under the new Rural Telephone Act. Larger centres had telephone service as early as the 1880s. By 1908, however, only 300 farms have telephones.

# 1909

- Early maturing Marquis wheat, first tested at the experimental farm in Indian Head, is made available to farmers. Within a few years, Marquis is the most widely grown variety of wheat in the West.

- Saskatoon is chosen as the home of the University of Saskatchewan two years after the legislation to create it was passed. The first classes are held in a downtown office building.

- The cornerstone is laid for the Legislative Building in Regina.

# 1910

- Prime Minister Wilfrid Laurier lays the cornerstone for the College Building at the University of Saskatchewan.

- The Weyburn Security Bank opens, the only Saskatchewan-chartered bank to operate in the province. When the Depression strikes 20 years later, the bank runs into trouble and is bought out by the Imperial Bank of Canada in 1931.

- The Regina Rugby Club is formed. In 1924 it becomes the Regina Roughriders and in 1950, the Saskatchewan Roughriders.

## 1911

- The census shows that Saskatchewan is Canada's third largest province by population.
- Seager Wheeler, a farmer from Rosthern, wins the first of five world wheat championships and puts Saskatchewan on the map. His entry of Marquis wheat earns him $1000 at the New York Land Show. Wheeler uses the money to pay off his farm. A few years later, he goes on to develop new varieties of barley, wheat and oats.
- The farmer-owned Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company is formed. Forty-six elevators are ready for the 1911-1912 crop year.
- Homemakers' Clubs are formed to work for better living conditions in rural Saskatchewan.
- Only eight years after the Wright brothers' historic flight, Bob St. Henry makes the first airplane flight in Saskatchewan. It takes place on the western outskirts of Saskatoon.
- Saskatchewan's first electric street railways begin service in Regina and Moose Jaw. Two years later, Saskatoon streetcars make their inaugural run.
- The Saskatchewan Anti-Tuberculosis League is organized to fight widespread tuberculosis. The "white plague" is the leading cause of illness and death at this time.

U OF S ARCHIVES A-8

*Laying the cornerstone, College Building, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, 1910*

WDM 1-DIB1-21

*Breaking sod at Zealandia, 1911*

## 1912

- On June 30, the Regina Tornado kills 28 people, destroys 500 buildings and leaves 2500 people homeless.
- The Legislative Building opens on October 12. Construction cost $1.8 million. More than 30 different kinds of marble are used on stairways, walls, floors and decorative elements.

## 1913

- Violet McNaughton, a farm woman from Harris, becomes president of the newly formed Women Grain Growers' Association. The WGGA takes up many causes including women's right to vote.

SAB R-B7744

*Delivering grain to the Lipton elevator, 1911*

SAB R-B617

*Inaugural run of the Regina Municipal Railway, 1911*

WDM-2002-NB-24

*Soldiers leaving North Battleford, 1915*

## 1914

- Saskatchewan's first hospital for the mentally ill opens in North Battleford. It has 325 patients within the first four months.
- The First World War begins. Over the next five years, 42,000 men and women from Saskatchewan serve in the armed forces. On the home front, farmers concentrate on growing wheat to supply the needs of the Allies. People pitch in, donating money to the Red Cross and the Canadian Patriotic Fund, and buying Victory Bonds. Women knit socks and send other comforts to soldiers overseas.
- The Juniata Co-operative Association, in the village of Juniata west of Saskatoon, is the first formed under Saskatchewan's new co-operative legislation. By year's end there are 113 new co-operatives.
- The Better Farming Train, a classroom on rails, is sponsored by the University of Saskatchewan, the provincial government and the railways. Travelling the province until 1922, it brings the latest in science and technology to farm families.
- The Rural Municipality of Sarnia, near Holdfast, agrees to pay its own doctor because local residents do not have the money for medical services. This is the first time in North America that a community hires a doctor.

## 1915

- Saskatchewan farmers produce the first bumper wheat crop. More than half of the wheat grown in Canada this year comes from Saskatchewan farms.
- Prohibition is seen as a solution to social problems caused by alcohol. All bars in Saskatchewan close in July but liquor is still available through government dispensaries.
- The Saskatchewan School Trustees' Association, forerunner of the Saskatchewan School Boards' Association, is formed.

## 1916

- Saskatchewan votes for Prohibition and government dispensaries are closed. On December 31, the province officially becomes "dry."

- Women win the right to vote in municipal and provincial elections; however, they must be British subjects.

- The government gives rural municipalities the power to collect taxes so they can build and operate their own hospitals. This is a unique Saskatchewan response to health care concerns, the first of its kind on the continent.

## 1917

- The Saskatchewan Provincial Police is created. One of its major challenges is to enforce liquor laws during Prohibition.

- Fort San opens at Fort Qu'Appelle for the treatment of tuberculosis. The hospital can accommodate 60 patients. Over the years, the facility grows to become a self-sufficient community able to care for nearly 360 patients.

## 1918

- The First World War ends and Saskatchewan soldiers begin returning home. Tragically, they bring home the highly contagious and deadly Spanish Influenza. The Spanish Flu claims over 4000 lives in the province, more than the number of Saskatchewan casualties in France during the war.

## 1919

- Contrary to earlier promises, which gave newcomers the right to educate children in their own languages, the government decides to allow English only in the public school system.

- The Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association enters federal politics. In 1922, it enters the provincial political arena, only to withdraw in 1924.

- Sarah Ramsland of Kamsack is the first woman elected to the Saskatchewan legislature. She represents the riding of Pelly in eastern Saskatchewan.

## 1920

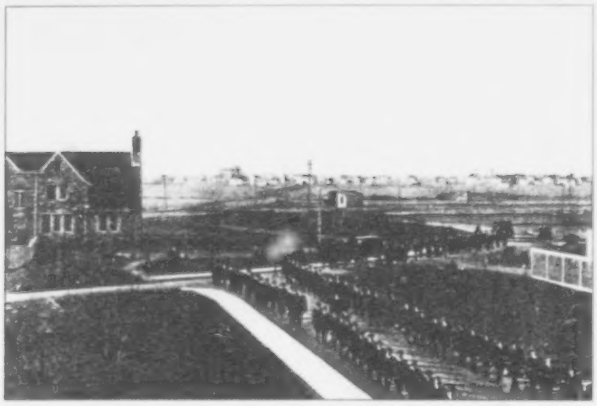
- There are four Canadian aviation firsts this year, all in Regina. The first commercial pilot's licence is issued to Roland Groome. Robert McCombie receives the first air engineer's certificate. The first licenced "air

SAB S-BW206

*Better Farming Train, c. 1916*

SASKATOON PUBLIC LIBRARY LOCAL HISTORY ROOM, LH1089

*Seager Wheeler, 1918*



U OF S ARCHIVES A-5709

*Funeral procession for a Spanish Flu victim, University of Saskatchewan, c. 1918*

SAB S-B4584

*Outdoor hockey, Hague, 1920*

harbour" or airport is built. The first commercial airplane, registered G-CAAA, is licenced.

- Saskatchewan-born Earl Thomson wins gold for Canada in the 110 metre hurdles at the Antwerp Olympics.

## 1921

- A group of farmers in Ituna organizes the Farmers' Union of Canada. The group is committed to farmer-controlled marketing. Thousands of farmers sign up in the next two years.
- When the Weyburn Mental Hospital opens this year, it is the largest building in Saskatchewan. It took 1000 railway cars to haul in construction materials.
- A sample group of school children are X-rayed for tuberculosis, a first in Canada. The survey reveals an alarming infection rate of 56%.
- The League of Indians of Canada, formed two years earlier, holds its annual meeting at the Thunderchild Reserve northwest of North Battleford. This is a new experience for many of the Saskatchewan delegates who have little experience with Indian politics beyond provincial borders.

## 1922

- Saskatchewan's first radio station, CKCK Regina, goes on air. The next year, the station makes history when it airs the British Commonwealth's first broadcast of a church service. On March 14, 1923, radio listeners are treated to one of the world's first live broadcasts of a professional hockey game when the Regina Capitals play the Edmonton Eskimos.

## 1923

- Aaron Sapiro, an organizer of producer co-operatives in California, visits Saskatchewan to promote farmer-controlled marketing of wheat. Sapiro's speeches are key to inspiring farmer support for the Wheat Pool.

## 1924

- Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited, better known as the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, is formed. It becomes the largest co-operative marketing organization in the world. A flurry of grain elevator construction follows.

- *The Progressive* newspaper becomes *The Western Producer*, the voice of prairie farmers. *The Progressive* was the successor of *Turner's Weekly*, a paper begun in Saskatoon in 1918.

- Saskatchewan votes to end Prohibition and adopts a system of government liquor stores.

## 1925

- Saskatchewan Wheat Pool completes construction of its first elevator at Bulyea.

## 1926

- Saskatchewan Wheat Pool buys the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company. By 1929, the Wheat Pool will operate 970 grain elevators in Saskatchewan.

- The Ku Klux Klan arrives in Saskatchewan. At its peak, some 25,000 people are attracted to Klan meetings, but by the end of the decade, the Klan's appeal has all but disappeared.

- The Regina Pats win Saskatchewan's first Memorial Cup, Canada's national junior hockey championship. The team was founded in 1917 and named after Queen Victoria's granddaughter, Princess Patricia, and the regiment that bears her name.

## 1927

- The Canadian Pacific Railway opens the Hotel Saskatchewan in Regina.

- Coal is strip-mined for the first time in southeast Saskatchewan near Estevan. Production costs are lower than for deep seam mining and the price of coal begins to drop. To compete, deep seam mining companies in the area cut wages. Unrest among miners grows over the next few years.

## 1928

- The Saskatchewan Provincial Police disbands and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police take over responsibility for enforcing provincial laws.

- General Motors opens a vehicle assembly plant in Regina. A Chevrolet is the first to roll off the production line, followed eventually by McLaughlin-

SAB R-A24447 (1)

*Marriott family listening to the radio, Bateman, c. 1924*

SAB R-A15029 (2)

*Promoting the Wheat Pool, Weyburn Fair, 1927*

*Chautauqua at Richlea, c. 1928*

Buicks, Pontiacs and Oldsmobiles. The plant employs hundreds of people, but the venture is ill-fated as the Depression hits Saskatchewan a short time later, and the plant struggles to survive.

- Prince Albert National Park opens, the first national park in Saskatchewan.
- Saskatchewan's only military camp is established at Dundurn.
- Danceland opens at Manitou Beach, near Watrous. The hardwood dance floor, which floats on a cushion of horsehair, is one of only four such designs in North America.
- Ethel Catherwood, known as the "Saskatoon Lily," is Canada's first woman to win an Olympic gold medal. She wins in the running high jump event in Amsterdam.

## 1929

- On the farm, there are signs of increasing mechanization. The combine begins to replace the threshing machine. Harvest excursions, which for years had brought men from eastern Canada to help with the harvest, end as a result.
- The stock market crash leads to a world-wide economic crisis and depression. Saskatchewan will be especially hit hard when nearly a decade of drought follows.
- The Saskatchewan Power Commission is formed to deliver electricity to Saskatchewan communities.
- Saskatchewan is the first province to provide free tuberculosis treatment.

## 1930

- When Saskatchewan became a province in 1905, control of its natural resources was retained by the federal government. Twenty-five years later, Ottawa finally transfers control to the province. Manitoba and Alberta gain similar powers.
- Saskatchewan's first hydro-electric plant, located at Island Falls on the Churchill River, begins operations.

## 1931

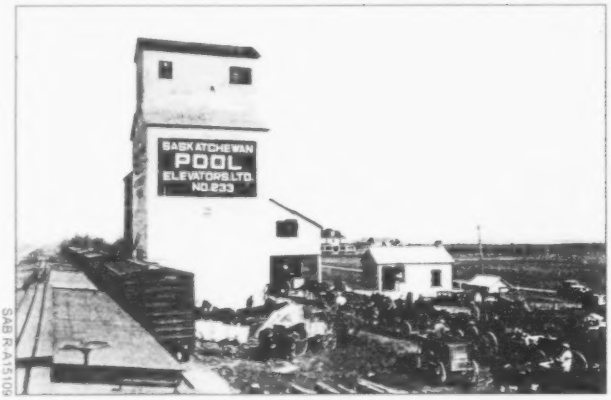
- Striking coal miners in southeast Saskatchewan converge on Estevan to protest low wages and poor living conditions. Three miners die in a clash with police on Estevan's main street.
- The Depression gives way to the "dust bowl" as drought grips the wheat belt. Black blizzards sweep across the southern plains. The first rail cars arrive with relief supplies from other provinces.

SAB R-A8806 (1)

*Police clash with miners, Estevan, 1931*

## 1932

- Saskatchewan introduces a provincial income tax for the first time.
- With drought and depression, the economy nosedives and jobs are scarce. Relief camps are set up across Canada to keep unemployed men out of the cities and out of sight. They are put to work but receive no pay, only an allowance of 20 cents a day to buy tobacco or other personal items. The relief camp at Dundurn will become one of the largest in the country.
- The Saskatchewan Farmer-Labour party is founded in Saskatoon. It will become the Saskatchewan Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, part of a new national political party.




SAB R-A15109

*Relief train, Aberdeen, c. 1933*

## 1933

- The Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, formed a year earlier in Calgary, meets in Regina and adopts the Regina Manifesto which aims to replace capitalism with a new social order. It advocates nationalization of railways, banks, public utilities and other services.
- Regina hosts the World's Grain Exhibition and Conference in the midst of worsening depression. Wheat prices plummet to just over 39 cents per bushel, the lowest ever. Ironically, the number of grain elevators in Saskatchewan peaks at 3240.
- The Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation is founded.

SAB R-A3341 (2)

*Unloading relief supplies, Herbert, c. 1933*

## 1934

- Saskatchewan's first successful natural gas well, Discovery No. 1 near Lloydminster, begins commercial production.
- Boxing Day is first observed in Saskatchewan.

SAB S-B4090

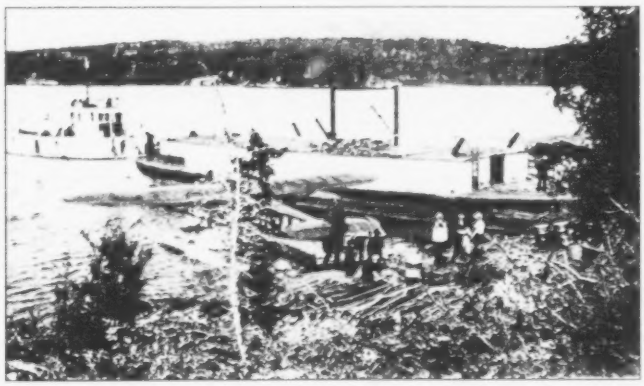
*Métis travelling in Bennett buggy, Crescent Lake, 1933*

## 1935

- Unemployed men ride the rails from Vancouver heading for Ottawa to protest the lack of jobs. The On to Ottawa Trek ends in a riot in downtown Regina. One city policeman and one trekker die.
- The first co-operative oil refinery in the world opens in Regina.
- The Canadian National Railway's Bessborough Hotel opens in Saskatoon. Construction was completed years earlier but the Depression delayed its opening.

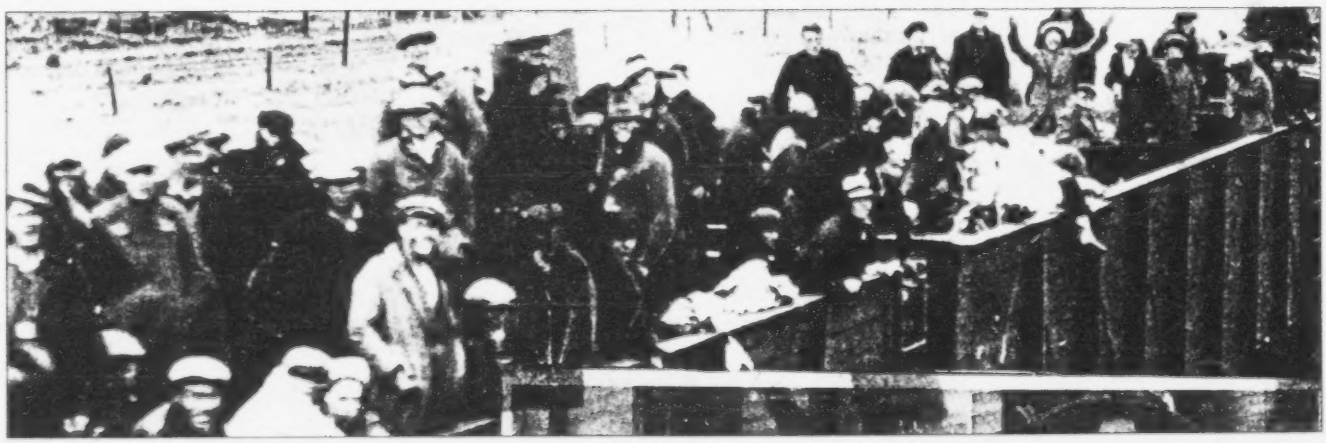
## 1936

- The University of Saskatchewan opens its Summer Art School at Emma Lake. The School owes its existence to the vision of landscape painter Gus Kenderdine and University of Saskatchewan president Walter Murray.
- The Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration distributes the Fairway strain of crested wheat grass seed to farmers whose land has been ravaged by drought. This tough, drought-resistant grass, developed at the University of Saskatchewan, helps hold down blowing soil.
- Uranium is discovered at Goldfields on Lake Athabasca.



SAB R-A1478(3)

*At the dock, Goldfields, c. 1936*



SAB R-B9018 (2)

*On to Ottawa trekkers, Regina, 1935*

## 1937

- This is the worst year of the Depression in Saskatchewan. Crops average an all-time low of 2.7 bushels per acre. Drought, dust, heat, grasshoppers, western equine encephalitis and army worms drive farmers to desperation.
- The temperature at Midale reaches 45°C, the highest ever recorded in Saskatchewan.
- When some banks pull out of drought-stricken Saskatchewan, the government passes the *Credit Union Act*. The Regina Hebrew Savings and Credit Union is the first urban credit union organized under the Act. A year later, Lafleche sets up the first rural credit union.
- The Saskatchewan Métis Society is formed. The organization is concerned with the plight of the Métis people who are essentially landless because of the failure of the scrip system years earlier.
- Saskatchewan's first provincial sales tax is introduced to help fund education.

SAB R-A15077 (1)

*Soil drifting, location and date unknown*

## 1938

- The Canadian Society for the Control of Cancer is organized in Saskatoon. It will become the Canadian Cancer Society a few years later.
- An outbreak of western equine encephalitis, or sleeping sickness, strikes some 50,000 horses in Saskatchewan and kills more than 15,000 in 1937-1938. To a farm population already hit hard by drought, the loss of so many horses is a heavy blow.

SAB R-A15061

*Royal visit, Melville, 1939*

## 1939

- The visit of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth draws thousands of people to the royal train's whistle stops across the province. Melville paints a royal greeting on its grain elevator. Sixty thousand people jam into town.
- The Rural Municipality of McKillop, near Bulyea, introduces a health care plan paid for by tax dollars. The five dollar annual fee to RM residents covers medical services. The plan is the first of its kind in North America.
- Canada declares war on September 10. Some 80,000 Saskatchewan men and women will serve in the armed forces over the next few years.

WDM BROWN COLLECTION WDM-1994-S-438

*Downtown Biggar, 1941*

## 1940

- Construction begins on British Commonwealth Air Training Plan bases in 14 Saskatchewan communities. Thousands of young men from all over the Commonwealth pour into Saskatchewan. The Plan is good for business, helping to pull the province out of the doldrums.

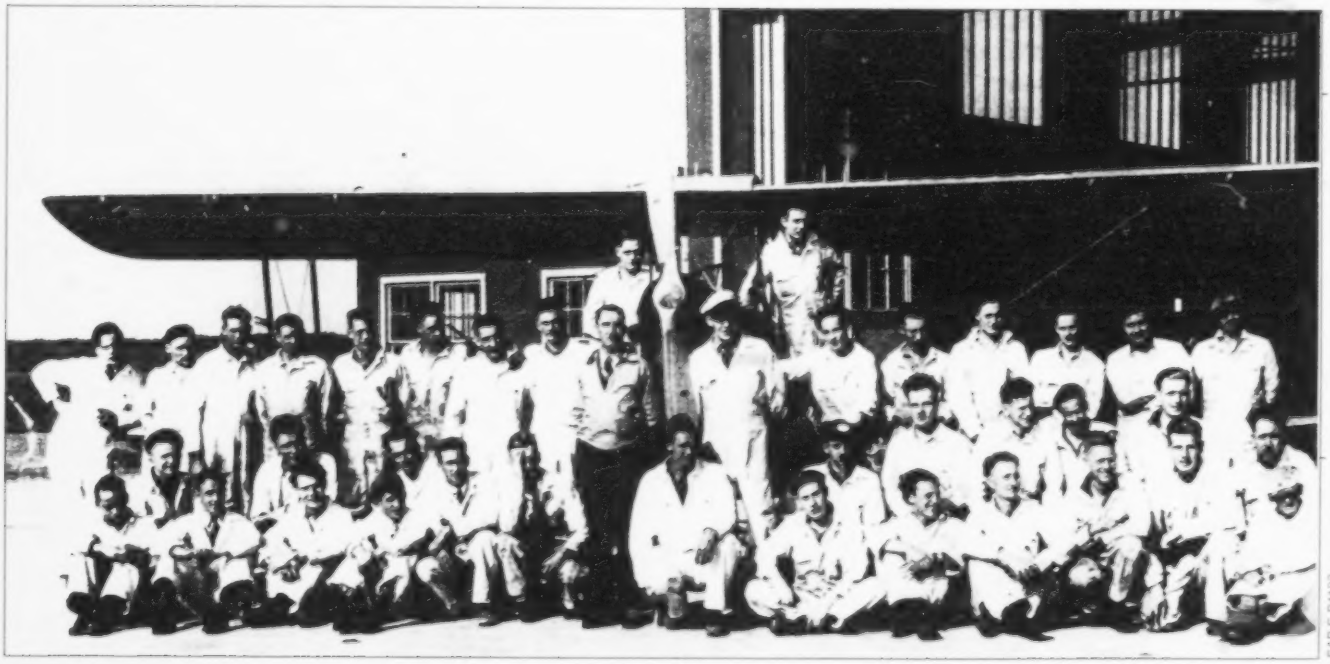
- Saskatchewan sends its first female member of parliament to Ottawa. Dorise Nielsen, representing the United Progressive Party, is elected by voters in the North Battleford constituency.

- The federal government takes over the General Motors factory in Regina for the duration of the war. As Regina Industries Limited, it becomes the province's largest war plant. The 1500 men and women who work there assemble anti-aircraft guns and munitions.

## 1941

- Despite the hard times of the 1930s, which drove many people from Saskatchewan, the 1941 census reveals that the province remains Canada's third most populous.

- The province is still waging war on tuberculosis. Melville citizens take part in Canada's first mass TB survey.



SAB S-B1122

*British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, Prince Albert, 1940*

## 1942

- Gasoline and butter rationing are implemented across Canada due to shortages during the Second World War. Before long, sugar, coffee, meat and other goods are added to the list.

- Wally McLeod of Regina earns a reputation in Malta as a fighter ace. By the time he is killed in a "dogfight" in 1944, he is the Royal Canadian Air Force's top fighter pilot.

## 1943

- The new polio clinic at St. Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon is the first of its kind in Saskatchewan.

SAB S-B884

*Victory Loan campaign, Saskatoon, 1943*

## 1944

- In a landslide vote, Saskatchewan electors propel the social democratic Co-operative Commonwealth Federation into power. T.C. (Tommy) Douglas becomes premier with an ambitious social and economic agenda.

- Free treatment of cancer is given to Saskatchewan people who have lived in the province for six months immediately before treatment.

- By the 1940s, the province can no longer sustain over 5000 local school districts. The *Larger School Units Act* is passed by the new CCF government at the urging of teachers and teacher organizations. One of the main objectives of the legislation is to reduce the inequality of educational opportunities between "have" and "have not" school districts.

SAB S-B456

*Victory parade, Dinsmore, 1945*

SAB R-A3303 (2)

*Saskatchewan Air Ambulance Service, location unknown, c. 1946*

SAB R-A2996

*Testing for TB, Watson, 1949*

## 1945

- Near Lloydminster, the first commercial oil well begins production at the site of a 1944 discovery.
- The Saskatchewan Archives is created to preserve documents relating to the province's history. It succeeds the Public Records Office which had been established by the provincial government at the University of Saskatchewan in 1938.

## 1946

- The first government-operated air ambulance service in North America takes flight. It serves rural and isolated areas of the province.
- Swift Current Health Region No. 1 provides the first comprehensive health care plan in Canada. Based on the plan introduced by the RM of McKillop in 1939, it will become a model for the future.
- The Union of Saskatchewan Indians is formed when three First Nations political groups amalgamate to work for protection of Treaties and Treaty rights.
- A sodium sulphate plant is built at Chaplin. It will become the largest producer of sodium sulphate in Canada and the United States.
- Eighteen year old Gordie Howe, from Floral, joins the National Hockey League Detroit Red Wings. He will go on to become a hockey legend, known internationally as "Mr. Hockey."

## 1947

- Saskatchewan is the first province to provide universal hospital insurance. Individuals pay five dollars annually; families pay $30.
- Saskatchewan passes Canada's first human rights legislation prohibiting discrimination in accommodation, employment, occupation and education.

## 1948

- The Saskatchewan Arts Board is created by the government to promote the arts. It is the first such organization in North America.
- The University of Saskatchewan builds a 25 million electron-volt betatron. Used for cancer research, the betatron is Canada's first.

## 1949

- The government begins a program to bring electricity to Saskatchewan farms. Some 1100 farms are connected to the provincial grid this year.
- The *Western Development Museum Act* is passed, although the museum opened two years earlier in North Battleford. Its mandate is to collect and preserve the material history of Western Canada.

## 1950

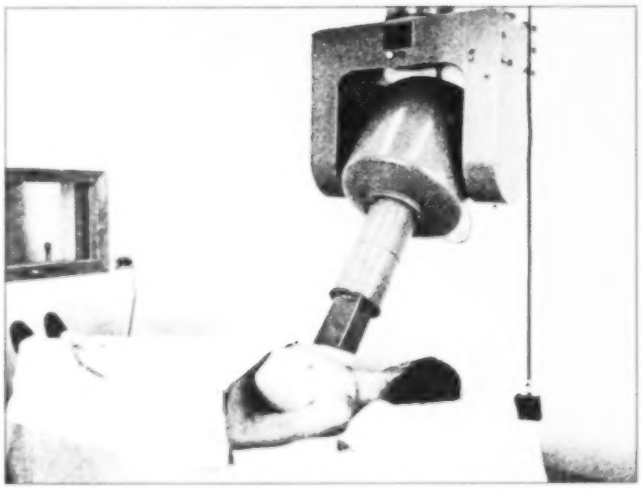
- Work begins on the Interprovincial Pipeline to transport oil from Alberta to Ontario. It reaches Regina this year.
- The Korean War begins; about 1000 people from Saskatchewan will serve overseas.

SAB R-A11108 (6)

*Electricity comes to farm kitchens, location unknown, c. 1950*

## 1951

- Innovative work on the cobalt bomb at the University of Saskatchewan helps to revolutionize cancer treatment around the world. Cobalt-60 therapy treats cancerous tumours with radiation.
- The census shows that Saskatchewan's population slips to fifth place among the provinces.

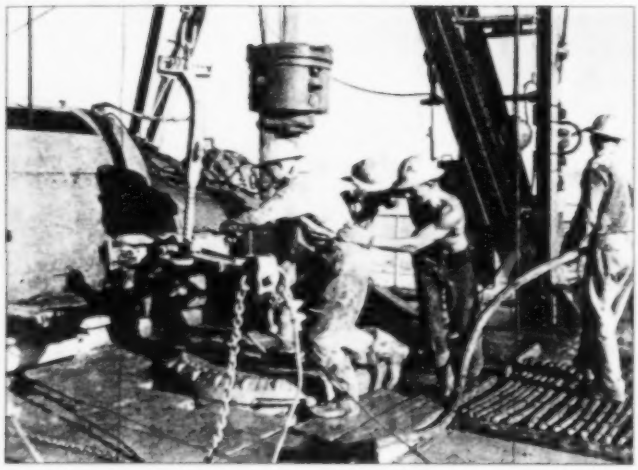


SAB R A11320 (4)

*Cobalt-60 cancer treatment, Saskatoon, 1951*

## 1952

- An outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease closes the American border to Saskatchewan livestock. Over 1000 cattle in the Regina area are destroyed to prevent the spread of the disease.
- Eldorado Mining and Refining Limited begins production of uranium in northern Saskatchewan. Over the next 50 years, the province will become the world's largest uranium producer.
- Polio strikes hundreds of children and adults in Saskatchewan, causing widespread fear. Many patients, unable to breathe on their own, are confined to iron lungs, sometimes for weeks or months.
- Saskatchewan's first major oil field containing medium gravity crude is discovered in the southwest. This marks the beginning of the province's oil boom. Fosterton Well No. 1 begins pumping in February. It will pump for over 40 years.
- Trapshooter George Genereux of Saskatoon wins Canada's only gold medal at the Helsinki Olympics.



SAB. GOV'T OF Sk PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICES. AC-78

*Oil drilling crew, Minton, c. 1954*

SAB R-B6296

*Saskatchewan Golden Jubilee Choir, Regina, 1954*

SAB R-B1157 ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN THE MOOSE JAW TIMES-HERALD

*Golden Jubilee skating carnival, location unknown, 1955*

## 1953

- Saskatchewan celebrates the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.
- The oil boom in the Williston Basin between Weyburn and Estevan begins.

## 1954

- Television comes to Saskatchewan. CKCK in Regina and CFQC in Saskatoon begin broadcasting.
- A Trans-Canada Airlines passenger plane collides with an RCAF Harvard trainer over Moose Jaw, killing 37 people and destroying three houses.

## 1955

- Saskatchewan marks its Golden Jubilee with hundreds of celebrations. The events honour the pioneers, many of whom are still living. Regina hosts the Macdonald Brier, the Canadian men's curling championship. Hometown favourites, the Campbells of Avonlea, claim victory.
- University Hospital opens in Saskatoon after eight years of construction. A teaching hospital linked to the College of Medicine at the University, it is the leading medical facility in the province.
- The Museum of Natural History opens a new building in Regina, a legacy of the province's 50th anniversary.

## 1956

- The province begins an ambitious plan to build a system of all-weather roads. Saskatchewan has more miles of road than any province in Canada.
- This is the peak year for rural electrification. Lights go on in hundreds of farms, and yard lights dot the countryside.
- The Saskatchewan Federation of Labour is founded.

## 1957

- The Trans-Canada Highway through Saskatchewan is complete. Saskatchewan is the first province to finish its section.

- Completion of the Trans-Canada microwave-relay system through Saskatchewan means that viewers can watch live television broadcasts from eastern Canada.

- Saskatchewan Progressive Conservative politician John G. Diefenbaker becomes Prime Minister of Canada. Raised on a farm near Borden, Diefenbaker graduated with a law degree from the University of Saskatchewan and practised in Wakaw and Prince Albert. First elected to Parliament in 1940, Diefenbaker will represent the federal riding of Prince Albert from 1953 to 1979.

SAB R-B1159

*Macdonald Brier, Regina, 1955*

## 1958

- The Union of Saskatchewan Indians becomes the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians.

- A mine near Saskatoon produces Canada's first potash; however, flooding forces the mine to close. Water problems plague another mine development at Esterhazy.

SAB GOVT OF SK PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICES 58-162-04

*Public health nurse giving polio shot, Thunderchild Reserve, 1958*

## 1959

- Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip visit Saskatchewan. The tour includes the Western Development Museum in Saskatoon.

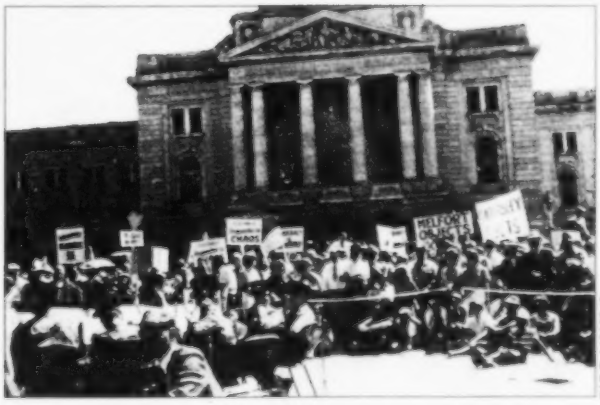
- Boundary Dam near Estevan and the Queen Elizabeth power generating station in Saskatoon are commissioned by Saskatchewan Power Corporation. The Queen officiates at the Saskatoon opening.

- The Ernie Richardson rink from Regina wins the first of four Macdonald Brier Canadian men's curling championships.

- A ceremony drawing nearly 15,000 people marks the beginning of the South Saskatchewan River project 25 kilometres downstream from Elbow. The earth-filled dam, which will take years to complete, will be one of the largest in the world.

SAB R-B2343

*School buses, Lang, c. 1960*



SAB R-A12109(13)

*Medicare protesters at the Legislative Building, Regina, 1962*

## 1960

- Treaty Indians get the right to vote in federal and provincial elections.
- The government begins a major effort to modernize farms. The *Family Farm Improvement Act* provides financial assistance to install water and sewage systems on farms.
- The Interprovincial Steel and Pipe Corporation (IPSCO) is founded in Regina. It is western Canada's first steel mill.

## 1961

- A ten-day heat wave in early June hits Saskatchewan. High temperatures and little rain add up to the hottest and driest month ever recorded in Western Canada.
- The rural electrification program, begun in 1949, is essentially complete.
- The Joyce McKee rink from Saskatoon wins the first Canadian women's curling championship.

## 1962

- Saskatchewan implements Medicare. The *Medical Care Insurance Act* provides tax-funded medical care to all Saskatchewan residents. Doctors withdraw services for 23 days to demonstrate their opposition to the scheme, but some concessions from the government end the strike. A few years later, the Saskatchewan plan will be a model for a similar nationwide program.
- The International Minerals & Chemicals Corporation potash mine at Esterhazy goes into production. The Blairmore Formation, a layer of water and sand far below the earth's surface, had caused flooding of the mine shaft. Huge cast-iron rings, some five metres in diameter, were put in place to keep the water out. This Saskatchewan engineering innovation, known as the Blairmore Ring, marked the real beginning of the potash industry in Saskatchewan. The Esterhazy mine will become the largest potash mine in the world.

## 1963

- The University of Saskatchewan begins construction of its new Regina campus south of Wascana Lake.
- The E.B. Campbell generating station, on the Saskatchewan River northeast of Nipawin, goes into service.

## 1964

- Saskatchewan permits separate tax-supported Catholic secondary schools. Education tax dollars can now be directed to either the public or the separate high school system as had been the case with elementary schools since 1905.
- The largest linear accelerator in the world opens at the University of Saskatchewan. It keeps the University at the forefront of nuclear physics research.
- The Hanson Lake Road is officially opened. Beginning in Smeaton and ending at Creighton, the 322 kilometre highway is an important link between Prince Albert and Flin Flon, Manitoba.

SAB, GOVT OF SK PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICES: 63-398-12

*Community lumber yard, La Loche, 1964*

## 1965

- Saskatchewan celebrates its Diamond Jubilee.
- The Northgate Mall opens in Regina. It is the first enclosed shopping mall in the province.
- The Western College of Veterinary Medicine opens at the University of Saskatchewan. The College serves the four western provinces.

SAB R-A20235 (2)

*The Shaws of Bladworth celebrate Grey Cup, Vancouver, 1966*

## 1966

- The Saskatchewan Roughriders win their first Grey Cup. It will be 1989 before they win again.

## 1967

- Canada's Centennial prompts celebrations around the province and across the nation. Museums are built, local history books are written, and hockey rinks are erected.
- The dam constructed by the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration on the South Saskatchewan River is dedicated, realizing a dream

SAB S-B8411 ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN THE WESTERN PRODUCER

*Official opening, Gardiner Dam, 1967*

SAB, GOVT OF SK PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICES 67-594-01

*Trenching for the gas line, Rouleau, 1967*

SAB, GOVT OF SK PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICES 68-467-53

*Combining, southern Saskatchewan, 1968*

first proposed over 100 years earlier by Captain John Palliser. The dam is named after James G. (Jimmy) Gardiner, former Saskatchewan Liberal premier and federal minister of agriculture; the park is named for Tommy Douglas, long-time Saskatchewan premier and federal leader of the New Democratic Party; and the lake bears the name of former prime minister John Diefenbaker.

## 1968

- The Prince Albert Pulp Mill, jointly owned by the provincial government and private industry, opens near Prince Albert. It is Saskatchewan's largest industrial employer.
- The Centennial Auditorium, a centennial project begun a year earlier, opens in Saskatoon.

## 1969

- Saskatchewan adopts a provincial flag. Over 4000 designs are submitted to the province's flag contest.

## 1970

- The Saskatchewan Centre of the Arts, begun as a Canadian Centennial project, opens in Regina.
- Commercial production of lentils in western Canada begins when 600 hectares are seeded in west-central Saskatchewan.

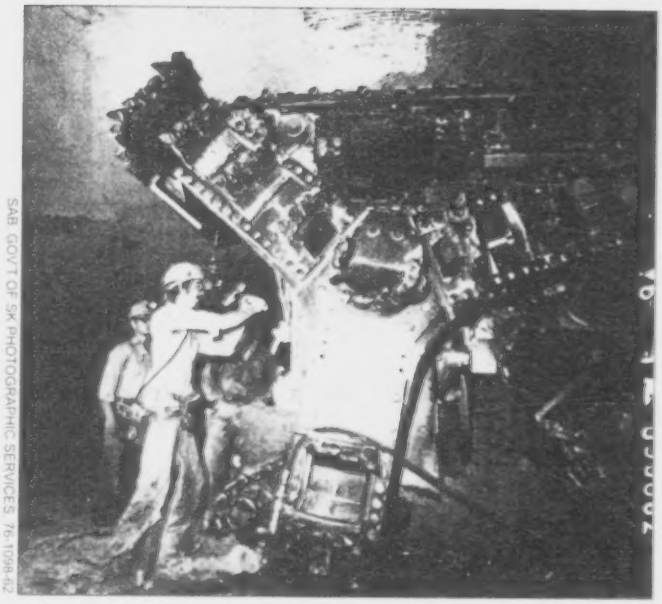
## 1971

- Regina hosts the first Canadian Western Agribition. It will become North America's largest annual livestock show.
- The Canada Winter Games are held in Saskatoon. Skiing competitions take place on man-made Mount Blackstrap near Dundurn.
- Saskatchewan hosts Homecoming '71, welcoming former residents home to the province. The Snowbirds, Canada's new air acrobatic team based in Moose Jaw, give their first public performance at the Saskatchewan Homecoming Air Show.

## 1972

- The Saskatchewan Land Bank Commission is created to purchase land and lease it back to young farmers. The object is to enable young people to get into farming without undertaking heavy capital investment. But, there is opposition to the government becoming a major land owner and in 1982 the Land Bank will be abolished.

- The Federation of Saskatchewan Indians establishes the Saskatchewan Indian Cultural College as a teaching institution.



SAB GOVT OF SK PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICES 76-1098-62

*Workers at the Duval potash mine, near Saskatoon, 1976*

## 1973

- Saskatchewan hospitals restrict smoking to designated areas. This is one of the first steps to reduce smoking in public places.

## 1974

- The province introduces a plan to give free dental care to children ages three to 12.

- The Regina Campus of the University of Saskatchewan becomes a separate institution, the University of Regina. Its roots go back to 1911 when Regina College was founded by the Methodist Church of Canada. John Archer is named the first president of the university.

WDM CREDIT UNION CENTRAL COLLECTION PA10487

*Customer at ATM, location and date unknown*

## 1975

- In another of a long series of health care initiatives, Saskatchewan introduces a prescription drug plan.

## 1976

- The first automated teller machine (ATM) in Canada is pioneered by Sherwood Credit Union in Regina.

- The Weyburn Inland Terminal is the first farmer-owned and operated inland grain terminal in Canada. Large terminals like this will spell the end of hundreds of country elevators.

## 1977

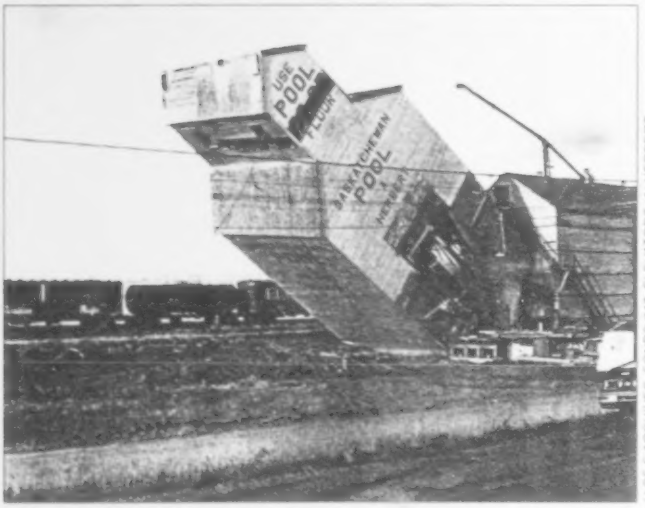
- The Kinsmen host Telemiracle. The telethon, which raises money for people with special needs, is so

SAB, MELVILLE NESS COLLECTION, S-MN-E542

*Canola field, near Humboldt, date unknown*

SAB, GOVT OF Sk PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICES, 79-153-232

*Open pit uranium mine, Rabbit Lake, 1979*




U OF S ARCHIVES, FONDS 247, ELEVATORS (1), HERBERT

*Elevator demolition, Herbert, 1979*

successful that it will become an annual event with widespread grassroots support. Per capita giving by Saskatchewan people will set new records.

- Innovation Place opens in Saskatoon at the University of Saskatchewan. It is Western Canada's first research park.

- *Paper Wheat* opens in Sintaluta. The play, written by a 25th St. Theatre collective in Saskatoon, tells the story of the formation of the Wheat Pool. Sintaluta was chosen for the debut performance because history was made there in 1901 when farmers came together to form the Territorial Grain Growers' Association.

## 1978

- The Western Canada Farm Progress Show is held for the first time in Regina. It showcases the latest in farm machinery and agricultural technology, and will become one of the largest shows of its kind in North America.

- "Canola" is trademarked. Pioneering work in the development of canola was carried out at the University of Saskatchewan. The crop, with its bright yellow blossoms, will change the look of summertime fields in Saskatchewan.

## 1979

- Teletheatre debuts in Regina. It is the first known television movie service available to subscribers on cable in North America.

- Saskatchewan welcomes the first of 3000 "boat people," refugees from southeast Asian countries like Vietnam and Laos. Many are sponsored by church groups.

## 1980

- Saskatchewan celebrates its 75th anniversary. Communities across the province host parades and picnics and dozens of special events. History books are compiled by local historians.

- The Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research is incorporated for the study and preservation of Métis culture.

## 1981

- Harrington barley, a product of the Crop Development Centre at the University of Saskatchewan, becomes the worldwide standard for malting barley.

## 1982

- Premier Grant Devine appoints Saskatchewan's first female cabinet ministers, Joan Duncan and Patricia Smith.
- Chiefs of Saskatchewan Indian bands reorganize to form the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, Canada's first Indian legislative assembly.
- Regina hosts the World Assembly of First Nations. More than 20,000 attend, making the assembly the world's largest gathering of indigenous people.

SAB GOVT OF SK PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICES 80-1628-03

*Farmer greasing cultivator, location unknown, 1980*

## 1983

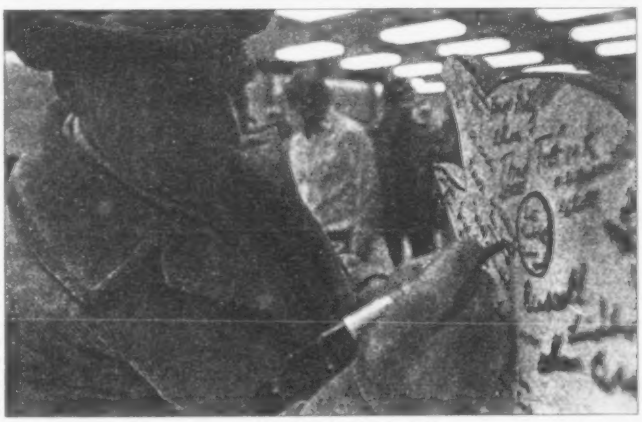
- Key Lake Mine opens in northern Saskatchewan. It is one of the world's largest uranium producers.
- Henry Taube, born in Neudorf, is the first Saskatchewan-born Nobel Prize winner. He wins the prize in chemistry.
- Saskatchewan's population tops one million for the first time.

SAB GOVT OF SK PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICES 82-0818-R4-15

*Degelman and Morris cultivators at Western Canada Farm Progress Show, Regina, 1982*

## 1984

- SaskTel completes installation of the world's longest commercial fibre optic network.
- Prud'homme native Jeanne Sauvé is appointed Governor-General of Canada.
- With the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement in 1899, the federal government fixed railway freight rates for hauling grain. In 1984, the government changes the "Crow" by paying a subsidy directly to the railways. The subsidy will in turn be abolished in 1995. Loss of the "Crow" will have a huge impact on Saskatchewan farmers as the cost of transporting grain increases dramatically. Railway branch line closures and the demolition of hundreds of country elevators also raise costs as farmers must truck their grain over longer distances.



SAB S-SP-A19866 (10), ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN THE SASKATOON STARPHOENIX

*Farmer signing "Crow" petition, location unknown, 1983*

WDM, KINSMEN TELEMIRACLE FOUNDATION COLLECTION

*Pushing a bed for Telemiracle, Bethune, 1984*

WDM, CREDIT UNION CENTRAL COLLECTION, NA20247

*Customer using debit card, Swift Current, 1985*

## 1985

- The hydro-electric station on the Saskatchewan River at Nipawin begins operation. The station can be operated by remote control from Regina.
- Métis people gather at Batoche to mark the centennial of the North-West Resistance of 1885.
- The debit card, the first in North America, is tested at the Swift Current Pioneer Co-op. Work on the debit card concept had begun in 1981 by the same credit union team in Regina that had introduced the ATM to Canada a few years earlier.

## 1986

- EROS, the Electron Ring of Saskatchewan, is the highest energy electron machine of its kind in the world. It makes possible a new generation of sub-atomic physics experiments.
- Saskatchewan builds a spectacular glass grain elevator for Expo 86 in Vancouver.

## 1987

- The University of Saskatchewan begins offering distance education by satellite television.
- The Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology is created when the *Institute Act* brings together the technical training programs offered at four campuses: Woodland in Prince Albert; Kelsey in Saskatoon; Palliser in Moose Jaw and Wascana in Regina.

## 1988

- Canada's first heavy oil upgrader is built in Regina by Consumers' Co-operative Refineries and the Province.
- Sylvia Fedoruk is appointed Saskatchewan's first female Lieutenant-Governor.

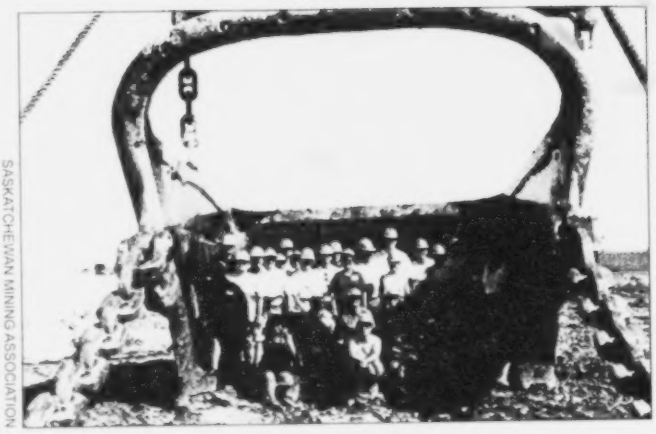
## 1989

- Cellular phone service is introduced in Saskatchewan.
- The Office of the Treaty Commissioner is created to address issues relating to First Nations land claims and to educate the public about Treaties.

- Liberal MLA Lynda Haverstock is the first woman elected to lead a provincial political party in Saskatchewan.

## 1990

- Ramon Hnatyshyn, a Saskatoon lawyer, is appointed Canada's Governor-General. He is the first person of Ukrainian descent to hold the office.
- A controversial report recommends major changes in health care services in rural Saskatchewan. It calls for 15 regional health districts to replace 400 local health boards.
- A Supreme Court of Canada decision gives off-reserve First Nations band members the right to vote in band elections.



SASKATCHEWAN MINING ASSOCIATION

*Dragline bucket, southeast Saskatchewan coal mine, date unknown*

## 1991

- Average farm size in Saskatchewan is 1,091 acres, just over double what it had been in 1951.
- The Kramer IMAX Theatre, the first of its kind in the province, opens at the Saskatchewan Science Centre in Regina.
- The banks of the Carrot River reveal the remains of a prehistoric crocodile. Nicknamed "Big Bert," it is the world's most complete Teleorhinus crocodile fossil.

SAB S-S-P-A 25796-41 ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN THE STARPHOENIX

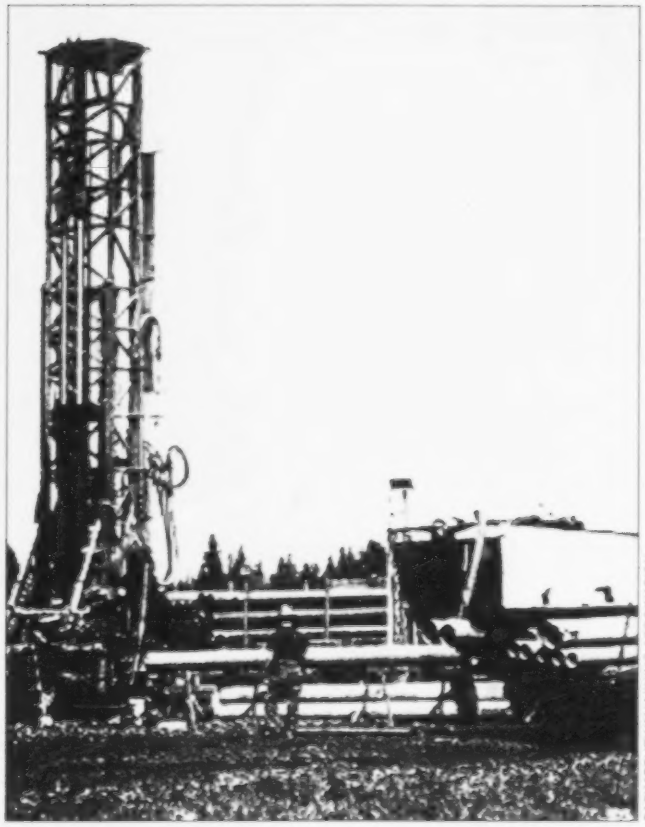
*Large farms require large equipment, c. 1990*

## 1992

- The Shand coal-fired power station near Estevan is commissioned. It is named after the village of Shand, a once-flourishing coal mining community.
- With the construction of the heavy oil upgrader at Lloydminster, the city becomes the heavy oil capital of the world.
- The Dumont Technical Institute opens to provide adult education and technical training to Métis people. It is associated with the Gabriel Dumont Institute.
- A Treaty Land Entitlement agreement is signed by the federal and provincial governments and 25 Saskatchewan First Nations bands. The agreement is to make good on Treaty promises of land, which had never been honoured.
- Wanuskewin Heritage Park opens near Saskatoon. The park interprets 6000 years of northern plains First Nations culture.

TOWN OF UNITY

*Saskatchewan Wheat Pool inland terminal, Unity, c. 2000*



SASKATCHEWAN MINING ASSOCIATION

*Drilling for diamonds, Fort à-la-Corne, c. 2000*

## 1993

- Prince Albert is the first Saskatchewan city to host the North American Indigenous Games.
- The government gambles with the introduction of video lottery terminals following a pilot project the previous year.

## 1994

- The fossil remains of a Tyrannosaurus Rex dinosaur dubbed "Scotty" are unearthed at Eastend. It is one of the most complete T. Rex skeletons known.
- Saskatchewan Government Insurance introduces "no-fault" insurance, a scheme that had its roots in 1940s Saskatchewan.

## 1995

- The Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority is created giving First Nations the authority to operate their own casinos.
- The farmer-owned Saskatchewan Wheat Pool goes public with a share offering on the Toronto Stock Exchange.
- SaskTel introduces Internet service to Saskatchewan.

## 1996

- Librarians at the University of Saskatchewan develop WebCATS, a web-based program for searching on-line library catalogues around the world.
- Canada's last federally-operated Indian residential school, located on the Gordon Reserve north of Fort Qu'Appelle, closes.

## 1997

- Chaplin Lake is designated a Western Hemispheric Shorebird Reserve Network. Hundreds of thousands of shorebirds descend on the lake during their annual migration.
- The Saskatchewan Party is founded by former members of the Progressive Conservative and Liberal parties.

## 1998

- It is a banner year for sports fans in Saskatchewan as the Sandra Schmirler rink wins gold in curling at the Nagano Olympics in Japan, and Catriona LeMay Doan skates her way to gold in speed skating.

## 1999

- The McArthur River Mine in northern Saskatchewan begins to extract ore from the world's largest known high-grade uranium deposit.

## 2000

- The Redberry Pelican Project near Hafford is designated by UNESCO as a World Biosphere Reserve.
- The Regina Research Park opens, bringing together innovators in the fields of information technology, petroleum and environmental research.

## 2001

- Saskatchewan takes a lead in providing high-speed Internet service to almost 400 communities spread across the province, linking schools, libraries, health care facilities and government services through CommunityNet.

## 2002

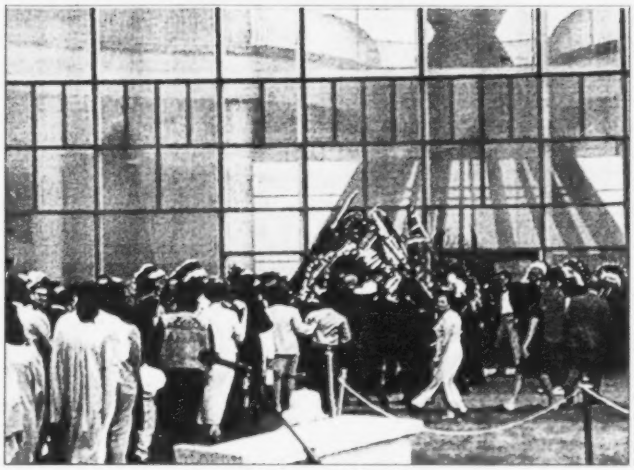
- Catriona LeMay Doan wins gold at the Olympics in Salt Lake City and Saskatchewan hockey players share golds in both men's and women's hockey.
- Saskatchewan is plagued by drought and a shortage of cattle feed. The Hay West campaign brings hay from eastern Canada to hungry western cattle.
- The *Métis Act* recognizes the historic, economic and cultural contributions of the Métis to Saskatchewan and Canada.

DESIGNER PHOTO TECH REGINA, SK

*Schmirler Rink wins gold at the Olympics, 1998*

SASKATOON STARPHOENIX

*Catriona LeMay Doan with her Olympic gold medals*



BONNIE LEASK, FEDERATION OF SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN NATIONS

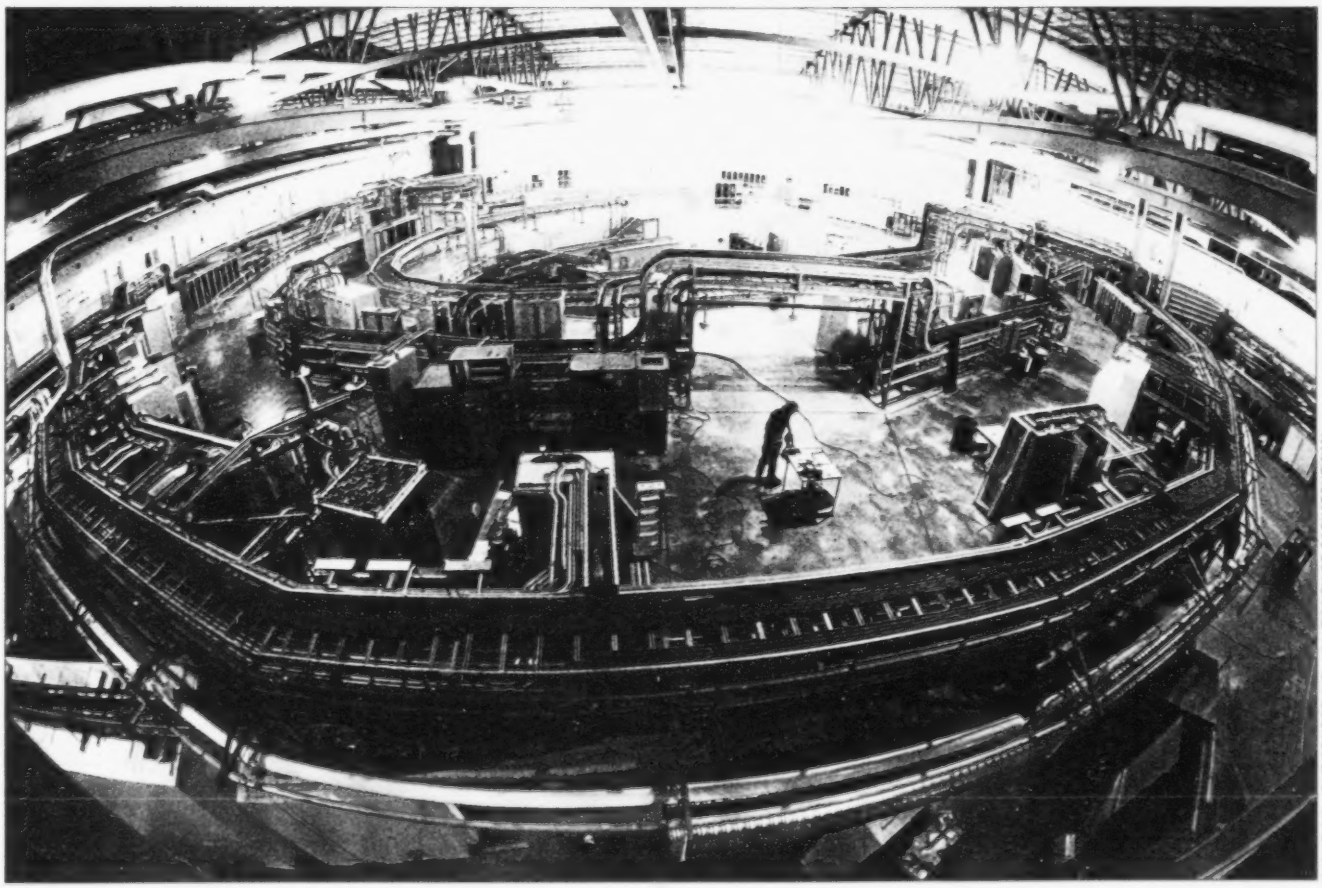
*Opening ceremony, First Nations University of Canada, Regina, 2003*

# 2003

- The First Nations University of Canada is inaugurated. It offers programs at three campuses: Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert. The FNUC originated in 1976 as the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College.

- A case of mad cow disease, Bovine Spongiform Encephalothopy, causes a crisis in the cattle industry when the American border is closed to Canadian livestock imports.

- The Saskatchewan Geo-Memorial Project, begun in 1947, is complete. Lakes in northern Saskatchewan are named after all Saskatchewan armed forces personnel who died during the Second World War.



CANADIAN LIGHT SOURCE INC., UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

*Synchrotron, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, 2004*

## 2004

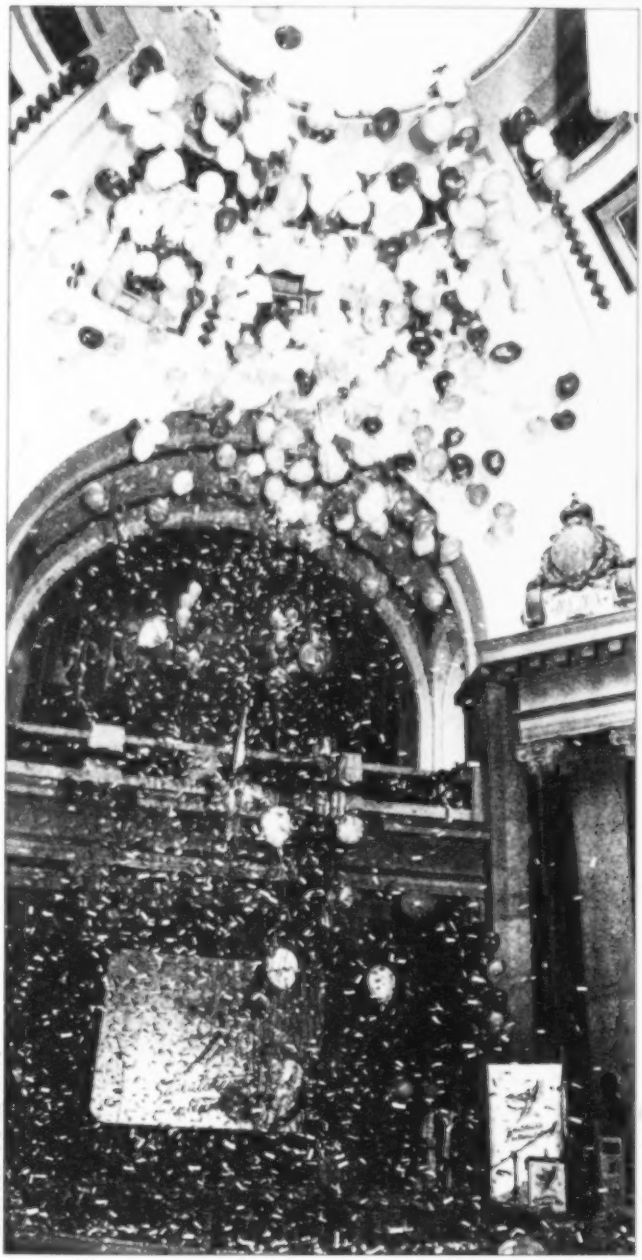
- A province-wide bumper crop is lost in a killing frost on August 20. Over 50% of the wheat crop is feed grade.
- In a CBC television competition, Canadians choose Tommy Douglas, former Saskatchewan premier and father of Medicare, as the Greatest Canadian.
- The Canadian Light Source Synchrotron opens in Saskatoon. It is Canada's largest scientific building project in a generation.

## 2005

- Saskatchewan celebrates 100 years as a province.

### Saskatchewan Premiers

| | |
|---|---|
| Walter Scott<br>Liberal | 1905-1916 |
| William Martin<br>Liberal | 1916-1922 |
| Charles Dunning<br>Liberal | 1922-1926 |
| James G. Gardiner<br>Liberal | 1926-1929 |
| J.T.M Anderson<br>Conservative | 1929-1934 |
| James G. Gardiner<br>Liberal | 1934-1935 |
| W.J. Patterson<br>Liberal | 1935-1944 |
| T.C. Douglas<br>Co-operative Commonwealth Federation | 1944-1961 |
| Woodrow Lloyd<br>Co-operative Commonwealth Federation | 1961-1964 |
| Ross Thatcher<br>Liberal | 1964-1971 |
| Allan Blakeney<br>New Democratic Party | 1971-1982 |
| Grant Devine<br>Progressive Conservative | 1982-1991 |
| Roy Romanow<br>New Democratic Party | 1991-2001 |
| Lorne Calvert<br>New Democratic Party | 2001 |



CALVIN FEHR PHOTOGRAPHY

*Saskatchewan welcomes the centennial, Legislative Building, Regina, 2005*

## Farm Population

| Year of Census | Number of Occupied Farms | Average Farm Size |
|---|---|---|
| 1901 | 13,380 | 282 acres |
| 1911 | 96,372 | 297 acres |
| 1921 | 119,451 | 368 acres |
| 1931 | 137,472 | 397 acres |
| 1941 | 138,713 | 432 acres |
| 1951 | 112,018 | 550 acres |
| 1961 | 93,924 | 686 acres |
| 1971 | 76,970 | 845 acres |
| 1981 | 67,318 | 952 acres |
| 1991 | 60,840 | 1,091 acres |
| 2001 | 50,598 | 1,283 acres |

## Saskatchewan Cities

| | |
|---|---|
| 1903 | Regina and Moose Jaw |
| 1904 | Prince Albert |
| 1906 | Saskatoon |
| 1913 | North Battleford |
| 1913 | Weyburn |
| 1914 | Swift Current |
| 1928 | Yorkton |
| 1957 | Estevan |
| 1958 | Lloydminster |
| 1960 | Melville |
| 1980 | Melfort |
| 2000 | Humboldt |

## Saskatchewan Population

| Year | Total Saskatchewan Population | Percentage of Population Rural |
|---|---|---|
| 1901 | 91,279 | 84 |
| 1911 | 492,432 | 73 |
| 1921 | 757,510 | 71 |
| 1931 | 921,785 | 68 |
| 1941 | 895,992 | 67 |
| 1951* | 831,728 | 70 |
| 1961 | 925,181 | 57 |
| 1971 | 926,242 | 47 |
| 1981 | 968,313 | 42 |
| 1991 | 988,928 | 37 |
| 2001 | 978,933 | 36 |

* Beginning with the 1951 census, the term urban included only those living in cities and towns; those living in villages were classified as rural. This explains why the table seems to indicate that the urban population decreased between 1941 and 1951 when in fact the opposite was true.

Saskatchewan
Archives
Board

SASKATCHEWAN
WESTERN DEVELOPMENT
MUSEUM

Saskatchewan
Centennial 2005

1905 1910 1915 1920 1925 1930 1935 1940 1945 1950 1955